# Russian Far East Research Assistant



Project Title	Russian Far East Research Assistant
Summary	Help inform U.S. foreign policy making and reporting by doing deep-dive research on political and economic issues in the Russian Far East that would be of interest to the U.S. State Department in Washington.
Country	Russia

## **Project Description**

The U.S. Consulate in Vladivostok is seeking assistance with deep dive research on select political and economic issues in the Russian Far East. Consulate Vladivostok covers the largest consular district in the world by landmass, and while the Russian Far East is not densely populated, it is of enormous strategic and economic importance to Russia. The Political and Economic Section of the consulate is responsible for monitoring and reporting on nearly all developments in the region, but certain subjects require more in-depth study and the careful collection of data from a variety of sources. The Consulate is seeking interns to assist in this research, both collecting information online and packaging it in an easy-to-digest form.

The subject matter of the research will depend on current events and the reporting priorities of the consulate during the course of the internship. However, work might include learning as much as possible about a certain economic sector (e.g., gold mining in Magadan or tourism in Kamchatka), or collecting data about foreign direct investment in different regions, etc. As another example, if the internship were taking place at the time of writing (May 2020), the intern might be asked to collect information on regional government efforts' to support small and medium businesses in response to the COVID-19 economic shock.

The interns' work product will depend on the nature of the subject being researched. Interns may be asked to write a brief report summarizing their finding, but more often will be presenting their research in the form of hyperlinks with brief explanatory notes. For certain issues, particularly those with data from different regions, a spreadsheet or chart may be created, and in some cases the work product will simply be answers to specific questions.

There will also be an opportunity for the interns to assist in social media research, a relatively new but extremely important and exciting area of diplomatic reporting.

While not strictly required, Russian language skills would be extremely useful for this internship. Even moderate proficiency would allow the intern to do Russian-language google searches that might reveal information an English-only search would not. (Applicants with less Russian might prefer the Russian Far East News Monitor internship, which is more structured and does not require searches)

## **Required Skills or Interests**

#### Skill(s)

Analytical writing Economic analysis Political Analysis Research

#### **Additional Information**

The Russian Far East covers the following 12 regions/districts: Primorye (where Vladivostok is located), Khabarovsk, Sakhalin, Yakutsk, Kamchatka, Magadan, Chukotka, Amur, the Jewish Autonomous Oblast, Irkutsk, Buryatia, and Transbaikal.

Primary Point of Contact at the Consulate would be Political/Economic officer Fred Noyes, whose email is NoyesFN@state.gov. Interns might also communicate with Economic Assistant Nastya Yeremeyeva at YeremeyevaAA@state.gov.

News outlets that often have good information on subjects of interest include: Vladivostok: Primamedia - http://primamedia.ru/, Vl.ru - http://www.vl.ru/, Konkurent - http://konkurent.ru/, Zolotoy Rog - http://zrpress.ru/, Regional news portal - http://primorye.ru/; Sakhalin/Kuril: Sakh.com - http://sakh.com/, Sakhalinmedia- sakhalinmedia.ru/, ASTV - https://astv.ru/, Khabarovsk: Vostokmedia (both Primorye and Khabarovsk) - http://vostokmedia.com/, Amurmedia - http://amurmedia.ru/, DvHab - http://www.dvhab.ru/, DebriDV - http://debri-dv.com/, Yakutsk: Yakutiainfo - http://yakutia.info/, Ykt.ru - http://news.ykt.ru/, YSIA - http://ysia.ru/; Kamchatka: Kamchatinfo - http://kamchat.info/, Kam24 - https://www.kam24.ru/, VestiPK - http://www.vestipk.ru/; Amur, PortAmur - https://portamur.ru/, Amur.Info - http://www.amur.info/; Magadan: Kolyma - http://www.kolyma.ru/, Magadanmedia - http://magadanmedia.ru/; Chukotka: IA Chukotka - http://www.prochukotku.ru/, Anadyr - http://www.anadyr.org/; Jewish Autonomous Oblast: Gorod na Bire - http://www.gorodnabire.ru/, EAOmedia - http://eaomedia.ru/, Transbaikal - https://www.chita.ru/news/, https://zab.ru/news, https://ok.ru/chitaru, https://www.mkchita.ru/news/; Irkutsk: https://www.irk.ru/news/, https://irkutsk.news/, https://baikal.mk.ru/news/, https://irk.today/, Buryatia: https://www.infpol.ru/, https://gazetarb.ru/news/, https://arigus.tv/news/, https://bgtrk.ru/

### **Language Requirements**

Language Speaking Proficiency Reading Proficiency Importance

Russian No practical proficiency Full professional proficiency Nice to Have